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MEMORANDUM ──

ATTENTION	Senate	**DATE**	February 7, 2020
FROM	Wade Parkhouse, Chair	**PAGES**	1/1
	Senate Committee on		
	Undergraduate Studies		
RE:	Program GPA (SCUS 20-07)		

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of February 6, 2020, gives rise to the following recommendation:

Motion:

That Senate approve   the changes to the Program GPA definition in the Academic Calendar to ensure the consistency of its calculation across all departments, as detailed in the attached document.

MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION	SCUS	DATE	February 3, 2020
FROM	Steve Birnie		
	Associate Registrar, Information,		
	Records, and Registration Services		
RE:	Program GPA		

Motion:

That SCUS approve and recommend to Senate the changes to the Program GPA definition in the Academic Calendar to ensure the consistency of its calculation across all departments.

Rationale:

In September 2002, Senate approved language that created and defined a Program GPA at SFU. According to the memo sent to Senate, the language was introduced *"to expand and clarify the prior regulation that a 'GPA of not less than 2.00 is required in courses comprising the major studies.' In essence, a uniform treatment is proposed based on current Faculty of Arts regulations."* However, when the approved language went live in September 2003, it was different than what was passed. In reference to the courses to be used in the calculation the phrase "in the program area" replaced the phrase "used to satisfy the program requirements". While the changes may have appeared to have been editorial, they fundamentally changed the interpretation of the original language for some. The result has been that Departments and Faculties each apply the language in different ways, to the point where there is no longer a common definition of Program GPA at SFU at all. The proposed clarify that program GPA is to be calculated on program requirements. There is no change to original intention, but some departments will need to adjust their procedures to realign with the standard.

Steve Birnie
Associate Registrar, Information,
Records, and Registration Services

Graduation

Grade Point Averages Needed for Graduation

Grade point averages (GPAs) used for graduation are the minimum GPAs that must be achieved to satisfy the requirements for a degree or other credential. The graduation GPA must be obtained both on the overall course work (CGPA) as well as on the upper division subset of that work (UDGPA).

In addition, program GPAs are the ~~required~~ minimum **GPAs that must be achieved** to satisfy the requirements of an honours, major, extended minor or minor program. In each case, the program GPA must be obtained both on the overall course work ~~(CGPA)~~ **used to satisfy the minimum program requirements** as well as on the upper division subset of that work ~~(UDGPA) in the program area.~~

The graduation and program GPAs specified below are University minimum requirements; individual faculties and departments may, with senate approval, have higher requirements.

In the event of repeated courses, only the higher grade is used in these GPA calculations.

Overall minimum requirements for all courses (CGPA) and all upper division courses (UDGPA) completed at Simon Fraser University

joint honours first class with distinction†	4.00 or greater
joint honours with distinction*	3.50 or greater
joint honours	3.00 or greater
honours first class with distinction†	4.00 or greater
honours with distinction*	3.50 or greater
honours	3.00 or greater
joint major first class with distinction†	4.00 or greater
joint major with distinction*	3.50 or greater
joint major	2.00 or greater
major first class with distinction†	4.00 or greater
major with distinction*	3.50 or greater
major	2.00 or greater
extended minors	2.00 or greater

Minimum Program Grade Point Averages (GPAs)

~~Program plan minimum requirements for all courses and for all upper division courses completed in the program area~~	
joint honours	3.00
honours	3.00
joint majors	2.00
major	2.00
extended minors	2.00
minors	2.00